

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating obesity in a mammal comprising  
5 administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutical composition that inhibits PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said mammal  
10 is a human.
3. A method for treating obesity in a mammal comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutical composition that modulates PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ )  
15 activity.
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said animal is a human.
5. A method for treating obesity, insulin resistance and dyslipidemia in a mammal comprising  
20 administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition that inhibits PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity in combination with an antidiabetic agent and/or a lipid-lowering agent.
- 25 6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said mammal is a human.
7. A method for treating obesity, insulin resistance and dyslipidemia in a mammal comprising  
30 administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition that modulates PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity in combination with an antidiabetic agent and/or a lipid-lowering agent.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said mammal is a human.
9. A method of screening compounds with an assay to identify inhibitors or regulators of PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity, wherein the assay is selected from the following group: in vitro binding assay, cell based transactivation assay, adipocyte differentiation assay, and in vivo obese animal model assay.
10. A method for treating osteoarthritis in a mammal comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutical composition that inhibits PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity.
11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said animal is a human.
12. A method for treating osteoarthritis in a mammal comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutical composition that modulates PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity.
13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said animal is a human.
14. A method according to any one of claims 3, 7 or 12, wherein PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity modulation is effected by regulating any one of the following: expression of the PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) gene, PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) protein activity, and transactivation of PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) target gene expression.
15. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of obesity and insulin resistance comprising: a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which inhibits or modulates PPAR $\delta$ ( $\beta$ ) activity.